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The BG News January 27, 2010

Bowling Green State University

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THE BG NEWS

ESTABLISHED 1920

A daily independent student press serving the campus and surrounding community

Wednesday

January 27, 2010
Volume 104, Issue 88
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CAMPUS

Observe the space beyond

The University's planetarium allows visitors to get closer to the stars and planets
| Page 5

FORUM

Misjudgments of Haiti rooted in racism

An evangelical preacher blames a pact with the devil for the earthquake in Haiti, but what should be considered is individuals' own judgments toward the Haitians says columnist Hama Bbela
| Page 4

NATION

Man arrested on weapons charges

Bail set by NJ judge for Va. man who was arrested after he was found with suspicious guns and hundreds of rounds of ammunition
| Page 9

SPORTS

Falcon men take on EMU

Men's basketball is looking to pick up a win against Eastern Michigan tonight, one they did not get last season
| Page 6

Falcons defend home court

Women's basketball prepares to take on Western Michigan tonight. The Broncos defeated them last time in Anderson
| Page 6



PEOPLE ON THE STREET

What crime do you most frequently commit?



EMILY DAVIS
Sophomore, Computer Sci.
"Steroid use."
| Page 4

Spotlight on citations

Local police cite violators during nightlife to maintain safety

By Troy Chamberlain
Reporter

While scattered minor offenses make up the majority of crime in Bowling Green, the downtown nightlife takes title as the single greatest contributor.

According to averages taken from four years of the Bowling Green Police Division's annual arrest reports, the majority of offenses handled fall under the category of "all other offenses."

This category, according to Lt. Tony Hetrick of the BGPD, encompasses minor crimes such as vandalism, juvenile truancy, and other offenses similar to, but not coded as, disorderly conduct.

Second to "all other crimes" is crimes falling under the category "liquor laws," which encompasses the majority of crimes

concerning alcohol, with exception to those involving the operation of a vehicle.

"[Bowling Green] has a high population of people between the ages of 18 and 25," Hetrick said. "We all know the college culture involves alcohol to a large degree and we enforce those liquor laws because of the problems they cause in the community."

Hetrick said there are many policies Bowling Green has in place to address the alcohol, including the parental notification policy for all offenders under the age of 21 as well as various committees such as the Drug, Alcohol and Sexual Offenses Coalition at the University.

"It's perceived as a huge problem and it really is," Hetrick said. "So it's attacked from all different angles, from all different levels of the community."



By the numbers: Bowling Green crime statistics

	2006		2007		2008		2009	
	Total	%	Total	%	Total	%	Total	%
Murder	0	0	2	<1	0	0	0	0
Manslaughter	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rape	0	0	1	<1	1	<1	1	<1
Robbery	1	<1	9	<1	6	<1	5	<1
Agg. Assault	8	<1	5	<1	11	<1	18	<1
Burglary	14	<1	16	<1	21	<1	22	<1
Larceny/Theft	147	4.3	109	3.5	130	3.7	132	4.5
Motor Vehicle Theft	1	<1	0	0	0	0	1	<1
Simple Assault	94	2.5	75	2.4	90	2.6	79	2.7
Arson	0	0	1	<1	3	<1	0	0
Forgery/Counterfeiting	34	1	30	<1	19	<1	26	<1
Fraud	2	<1	10	<1	2	<1	6	<1
Embezzlement	0	0	6	<1	0	0	0	0
Stolen Prop. - Buying, etc	16	<1	39	1.3	21	<1	27	<1
Criminal/Malicious Mischief	120	3.5	109	3.5	90	2.6	107	3.7
Weapons-carrying, etc	14	<1	14	<1	12	<1	25	<1
Prostitution/Vice	0	0	1	<1	0	0	1	<1
Sex Offenses (exe. rape, prost)	8	<1	13	<1	10	<1	8	<1
Drug Abuse	355	10.4	271	8.8	301	8.6	274	9.4
Gambling	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Offense against family/child	61	2	84	2.7	64	1.8	100	3.5
Liquor Laws	938	27.5	731	23.7	958	27.5	832	28.8
Drunkenness	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Disorderly Conduct	640	18.8	525	17	551	15.8	168	19.7
Vagrancy	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
All Other Offenses	958	28.2	1036	33.6	1190	34.2	657	22.7
Annual Offense Totals	3401		3081		3480		2889	

* "Liquor Laws" encompasses all crimes regarding alcohol, such as underage under the influence, open container, underage possession, etc.

* "Disorderly Conduct" encompasses everything from fighting to loud music and public urination.

* "All Other Offenses" encompasses minor property crimes like vandalism, juvenile truancy and offenses similar to, but not coded as, disorderly conduct.

Local publications put Bowling Green on the map

By Emily Tucker
Reporter

Many students, instructors and residents of the Bowling Green area have gone through the time-consuming process of trying to get a book published.

Michael Czyzniejewski, editor of the Mid-American Review, had a collection of short stories published last year called "Elephants in Our Bedroom." The theme of the book is the breakdown of relationships.

Czyzniejewski worked on the book for about ten years, and spent another six trying to get it published.

"It is rare to get a book published when you are young, like at age 25. It is hard even when you are 40."

Michael Czyzniejewski | Author and editor of Mid-American Review

"It is rare to get a book published when you are young, like at age 25," Czyzniejewski said. "It is hard even when you are 40."

His work was published because publishers saw some of his writing in magazines. He said he was surprised and happy because short stories are not as popular as they used to

be. Perseverance was what got his collection published, he said.

Czyzniejewski is in the process of writing a novel and another collection of short stories. The novel is about working at Wrigley Field in Chicago.

See **AUTHORS** | Page 2

Grant provides support for domestic violence victims

Monetary aid can help women escape abuse

By Jason Henry
Assistant City Editor

The Ohio Domestic Violence Network is dividing a \$50,000 grant from the Allstate Foundation among four Ohio domestic violence organizations, including \$7,750 for Bowling Green's Cocoon Shelter.

The funds, which will be used to help domestic violence survivors deal with economic abuse, are part of a \$635,000 national grant awarded to 11 states.

"Part of what it does is it creates savings accounts for victims of domestic violence, so if they start to save money, this grant will actually match that money up to a certain amount," said Nancy Neylon, Executive Director of ODVN. "It would give them a head start in getting started with their lives again."

Neylon said the goal is to get money directly into the hands of victims. She said during a similar program attempted two

years ago, one county gave ten domestic violence victims \$1,000.

"A year later, they followed up and nine out of ten of those women, just with that little bit of extra money, were able to get out and stay out of an abusive relationship, maintain jobs, maintain housing, maintain their kids, with just a tiny amount of extra money," she said. "It is that kind of thing that can really make a difference in a woman's life."

The other state programs receiving the grant are the Toledo YWCA, the Alliance Domestic Violence Shelter and the Cincinnati YWCA.

According to the Allstate Foundation's Web site, it has awarded over \$12 million to domestic violence organizations since 2005 in support of economic empowerment.

Deidra Bennett, Cocoon's Special Projects Coordinator,

See **VICTIMS** | Page 2

Spring enrollment figures down, but look to pick up in the fall

By Kate Snyder
Managing Editor

Total enrollment at the University is down from last year, but new enrollment tactics are in place for future years.

The student headcount this spring semester dropped by 148 from last January, and the total enrollment on campus is down 206 students from this time last year.

But almost 93 percent of freshmen from fall 2009 returned this spring, which is a 1.3 percent increase compared to last January.

Albert Colom, the vice president for enrollment, said the drop in retention from fall to spring was not unexpected.

"We're slightly down in the spring, (but) we're not surprised by that," he said.

Also, the number of new students, including freshman and transfer students, and the number of full-time students has increased from this time last year.

Colom said enrollment in

"We're slightly down in the spring, [but] we're not surprised by that."

Albert Colom | VP for Enrollment

online courses has increased as well.

In addition to increases from last year, Colom said some early indicators of enrollment for fall 2010 show an increase in students.

More students are visiting the campus and applying, and more off-campus enrollment programs have taken place.

"We're visiting more high schools," Colom said. "We're more than doubling on-campus programs."

More students have also submitted their on-campus housing payments already. So

See **NUMBERS** | Page 2

TIED TOGETHER TO HELP



COURTNEY STELLAR | THE BG NEWS

BOND: Sophomores (from left to right) Sarah Williams, Stephanie Otterson and Monica Ross help do their part in making blankets for charity on Tuesday evening. The three said the event was a good floor bonding experience and that they loved having the opportunity to help out for a good cause. For more photos see page 3.

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BLOTTER MON., JAN 25

12:42 A.M.

Dwayne Woods and Jordan Hopgood, of Cincinnati, were cited for disorderly conduct at Darrow Hall.

2:44 P.M.

Individual lost her wallet within the 100th block of N. Main St. When her wallet was found, three credit cards and her license were stolen.

3:23 P.M.

Janice Marckel, 46, of Bowling Green, was arrested for theft/shoplifting at Wal-Mart when she was observed shoplifting \$302.27 worth of cosmetics.

7:00 P.M.

Elk Lodge, located within the 200th block of Campbell Hill Road, was broken into overnight.

8:49 P.M.

Elisa Cano, 24, of Bowling Green, was arrested for felony warrant within the 800th block of Fifth St.

CORRECTION POLICY

We want to correct all factual errors. If you think an error has been made, call The BG News at 419-372-6966.

Rain has never been recorded in some parts of the Atacama Desert in Chile.

VICTIMS

From Page 1

said this grant will allow the shelter to give \$3 for every \$1 saved, giving \$750 maximum after participants save \$250.

Because many victims of domestic violence are also abused financially, they are left with few options, she said. An abuser may ruin the victim's credit, refuse to let them establish a job history or control all finances in the relationship.

"That is something that can last years and years," Bennett said. "The bruises and the emotional abuse you can get counseling for, you can heal from those things. If someone destroys your credit, it can take ten years to rebuild and become

financially sound again."

Along with the grant money, the Allstate Foundation and National Network to End Domestic Violence developed a curriculum to help women become and stay financially stable.

"We are going to be offering a financial empowerment and financial education group with that curriculum," she said. "The people who participate in that group, and who want to do one-on-one support as well, will be eligible for the matched savings programs."

Only those who commit to the program will be able to participate, Bennett said.

She said the shelter plans to start the first sessions in the next few months, but details are still being worked out. The

grant only lasts until September, so there will be a quick turnaround, Bennett said.

COCOON

More information about the Cocoon Shelter:

The Cocoon Shelter provides emergency safe housing to domestic violence victims. It is located at an undisclosed location for safety reasons. Bennett said anyone in an abusive relationship should call The LINK at 419-352-1545, and ask to speak to the Cocoon Shelter.

Bennett said through e-mail that the Financial Empowerment Support Groups will be held in Bowling Green and will be available to all domestic violence survivors in Wood County. More information will be released through victim service organizations.

AUTHORS

From Page 1

He worked there himself for 20 years.

Since it took so long for his first book to get published, Czyzyniewski suspects it will take time to get his next books published as well. But he said no matter how long each takes, he is always thinking about his next stories and trying to find time to work on them.

"It is a time management disaster," he said. "I just always want to write."

Wendy Schortgen, the assistant merchandising manager of the University Bookstore, wrote the popular picture book "Hello, Freddie Falcon." The book is about Freddie Falcon

on his way to the Doyt Stadium for a Falcons' game.

The book, which came out in fall 2008, took Schortgen three months to write.

"I had no deadline, but I wanted it done for football season," Schortgen said.

Schortgen took photos around campus and sent them to the illustrator. She got to see the pencil drawings before the illustrations were put into color.

The University had exclusive rights to Schortgen's book for a year, but now it can be seen at other bookstores in the area and Web sites, such as Amazon.com. Almost 500 copies have been sold.

Sally Wright, a local crime fiction writer, has written six books. Her most famous

series is about a character named Ben Reese, a post-World War II archivist. She got the inspiration to write about this character from meeting a real man who fought in World War II.

It took Wright 17 years to start getting her books published. She wrote two series novels and the first draft of a nonfiction book before getting her first book published.

Throughout her career, Wright has worked with three different editors. At first, editors thought her books could not be marketed, she said. They were more interested financially in what they could get out of her books than the content.

"I sympathize on a certain level," she said. "People just don't want to read and get interested in books."

Two Metro workers killed in latest DC-area track accident

By Nafeesa Syeed and Sarah Karush
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Two veteran workers on the Washington area's transit system were crushed by a maintenance truck yesterday, the latest in a string of fatalities that has made Metro the most deadly for U.S. transit rail workers in the past five years. Eight of the 13 rail transit workers killed in and around tracks since 2005 occurred in the Washington-area system, according to the Federal Transit Administration. And those numbers don't include a June collision that killed a train driver and eight passengers—the worst accident in Metro's 33-year history.

Last month, the Obama administration asked Congress to give the Federal Transit Administration authority to impose safety standards on subways, light rail and other urban train systems. Current law prohibits the federal government from doing so.

U.S. Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood and Federal Transit Administrator Peter Rogoff said the deaths underscore the importance of bringing transit safety legislation to the president's desk.

"It is also unacceptable that FTA is prohibited by law from addressing this problem head on," Rogoff said.

The veteran employees — Jeff Garrard, 49, and Sung Oh, 68 — were installing safety equipment on a track that was closed for the night when they were hit. Garrard had worked for Metro since 1990, and Oh had worked there since 1998. Both men lived in Montgomery County, Md.

The men were hit by a special vehicle that can drive on the track when electricity is shut down. NTSB investigator Stephen Klejt said the truck was in reverse, which was not uncommon.

He said the NTSB was reviewing recent employee work history and training as well as gathering radio recordings, track work procedures and the weather and lighting at the time of the incident.

Klejt said it will be critical to examine communications between the employees and the control center that oversees Metro's operations. That's been a theme of previous NTSB investigations of Metro workers hit by trains.

NUMBERS

From Page 1

far, 660 payments have been received, while last year that number wasn't reached until Feb. 27.

Lisa Cesarini, the interim assistant vice president for enrollment, said last year they didn't accept housing payments until the end of February. This year they began accepting payments on Nov. 30.

With more students learning about the status of their applications and financial aid earlier, Colom said more students are making their decisions earlier as well.

"We've streamlined a lot of procedures," he said. "We're processing admission decisions faster, and that helps us be competitive."

The number of students applying to the University is up 29 percent from last January, and the number of students admitted to the University so far is up 28 percent from last year.

The number of applications from minority students has also increased. Dave Kielmeier, senior director of marketing and communications, said

University President Carol Cartwright was beginning a new initiative to focus more on diversity on campus.

But overall, Colom said these enrollment numbers show recruitment strategies are working, though it will still take time to see the end result.

"The best recruitment is word of mouth," he said, but "the first glimpses are beginning to pay off. It's a good picture."

BY THE NUMBERS

Spring 2010 enrollment changes from spring 2009

- Full-time students: Increased by 232
- Total head count: Decreased by 148
- New students (freshmen and transfer students): Increased by 96
- Firelands: increased by 410

FRESHMEN FALCONS

Freshman retention

- From fall 2009 to spring 2010: 93 percent
- From fall 2007 to spring 2008: 90 percent

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715 Second St. - Three bedrooms. \$810.00 per month plus utilities. Deposit \$810.00. Has washer, dryer, C/A. Limit 3 people. Limit 3 cars. Lease 5/15/10 - 5/7/11.

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256 S. College #A - Three bedrooms. \$750.00 per month plus utilities. Limit 4 people. Limit 4 cars. Lease 8/19/10 - 8/6/11.

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722 Elm St. - Three bedrooms. \$690.00 per month plus utilities. Deposit \$690.00. Limit 3 people. Limit 3 cars. Has washer, dryer. Lease 8/19/10 - 8/6/11.

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714 Eighth #B. - Two bedrooms. \$680.00 per month plus utilities. Limit 2 people. Limit 2 cars. Has A/C. Lease 8/19/10 - 8/6/11.

722 Eighth St. - Three bedrooms. \$575.00 per month plus utilities. Deposit \$575.00. Limit 3 people. Limit 3 cars. Lease 8/19/10 - 8/6/11.

712 Second, #A and #B. - Two bedrooms in each unit. \$960.00 per month plus utilities. Has dishwasher, C/A. Limit 2 people. Limit 2 cars. Lease 8/19/10 - 8/6/11.

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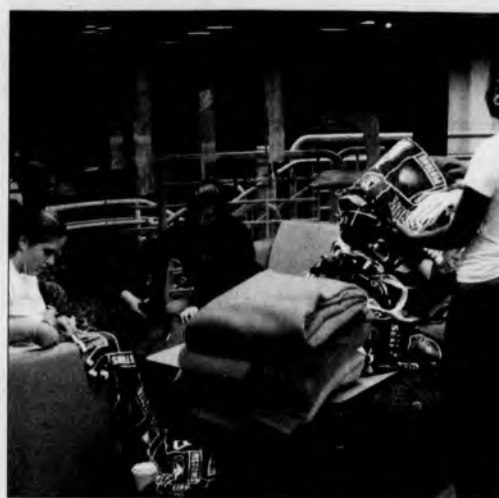
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Students make blankets for charity

COURTNEY STELLAR | THE BG NEWS

LEFT: Founders Resident Advisors gather students to make blankets that would later be donated to the Monroe Street Neighbor in Toledo.

TOP: RAs help organize a table of material which residents would later tie into blankets.

RIGHT: Administrative Resident Advisor, Loveda Van Der Molen, works on a blanket. The RA said the project was an inexpensive, but great way to help others.

BG1 offers usage at select off-campus venues

By Rose Schneider
Reporter

Students are now able to use their BG1 cards at 12 off-campus sites.

The BG1 Off-Campus Merchant Fair, which was held yesterday in Olscamp, allowed students to look at the many new off-campus sites allowing BG1 card usage.

"What we have done is we have invited any of our off-campus merchants that accept the BG Bucks card as a form of payment to set up a table and give out samples of their food or coupons to promote their establishment," said BG1 Card Manager Jean Coffield.

There were eight establishments set up for the fair, including Speedy Burrito, Chipotle, Easy Street Café, The Solarium, SamB's, Falcon Food Mart, Jimmy Johns and Beat the Bookstore.

SBX, Dominoes, Papa John's and Cinco de Mayo also support the BG1 card, but were not at the fair when The BG News was present.

Coffield said the reason the BG1 department started these offers is because they want to give students more options for eating. Students can "put money on their BG1 card" and then just "swipe their IDs" at these places, she said.

Customer Service Representative Emily Nye said since "a lot of people's parents put money on [student's] cards," these select businesses are able to gain more customers while giving more options for students at the same time.



CHRISTINA MCGINNIS | THE BG NEWS

BG1: Freshman Rachel Mattson enjoys a piece of 52 inch pizza from Falcon food mart during yesterday's BG1 card merchant fair. This is the first year the University has held an event to showcase the local businesses where students can use their BG1 card.



CHRISTINA MCGINNIS | THE BG NEWS

SAMPLES: Sophomore Ramona Fisher picks up a sub from the Jimmy Johns both during yesterday's BG1 card merchant fair.

Nye said the point of the fair is to show students "where they can use their cards and what their options are."

The businesses that were

present also handed out free menus, coupons and samples.

See BG1 | Page 5

Scholarship stresses community service

By Shaina Smith
Reporter

Students have many social and community service opportunities each semester, but one new program is aspiring to strengthen the community service aspect of student life.

Civic Action Leaders is a new three-year scholarship program that awards its recipients with \$4,000 for the school year. While receiving funding for their education, the students are required to complete three years of service.

CAL's mission is to create public service and service learning opportunities for students, faculty and staff, both on campus and in the community.

"We are the first cohort this year, a group of eight students who promote civic engagement on campus and in the community," said Jasmine Baytopf, CAL Treasurer.

Last year, the University bookstore and the Office of Service Learning teamed up to form a scholarship program that contains leadership development.

"The Bookstore really supports us a great deal and without their generosity and their scholarship support we wouldn't be able to have such a wonderful program for the students."

Paul Valdez | Civic Action Leaders

"The Bookstore really supports us a great deal and without their generosity and their scholarship support we wouldn't be able to have such a wonderful program for the students," said Paul Valdez, CAL assistant director.

The most recent event CAL put on was the MLK Day of Service Challenge. The Challenge gave teams seed money and asked them to combine their talents and work together to make a difference for a local non-profit organization.

"We had 350 participants this year and last year we had only 120," Baytopf said.

This semester, CAL is pushing civic round table off the ground. Civic round table, which meets every other Thursday night, allows for campus organiza-

tions that deal with community service and civic action to connect to share advice, pull resources and volunteers and collaborate with events.

"It makes us more productive and helps connect students across the University that might not interact with each other otherwise," said Heather Utsler, Head of Resource Guide for CAL. "We have eight organizations that come on a consistent basis and it has been growing."

See CAL | Page 5

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PEOPLE ON THE STREET Which crime do you commit most frequently?



"Underage drinking."
RACHEL LETWIN,
Sophomore,
Education



"Speeding."
BRETT SANDERS,
Senior,
Sports Management



"I am perfect and commit no crimes."
VICTORIA SCHROER,
Junior,
Accounting/Finance



"Jaywalking. I never use crosswalks."
BRAD SCHROEDER,
Freshman,
Marketing

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Misunderstanding of Haitian culture tied to decades of racism



HAMA BBELA
COLUMNIST

Evangelical preacher Pat Robertson blames a pact with the devil by Haitians for their recent earthquake. I personally think Pat Robertson's comments say a lot about the divisive nature of this calamity to spread his brand of religious psychobabble.

I don't have anything against religions or the religious. Yet Robertson's comments say a lot about the divisive nature of modern religious thought.

The so-called pact with the devil charged against Haiti is based on a famous Afro-Creole religious service, said to have sparked the Haitian revolution of 1791-1804. Yet underlining these insensitive statements is a racist misreading of the history of Haiti. Robertson is using the plight of others to sell his puritanical views of African religiosity as Satanic. Sadly, these claims aren't new when it comes to Haiti and Voodoo.

Voodoo has captured the popular imagination, and has been used as source material for movies like Wes Craven's "The Serpent and The Rainbow." In Craven's movie, Haiti is portrayed as a society caught up in a culture of corruption, witchcraft and primitivism. Craven's movie is full of

images with a historical basis in age-old ideas about Africans and African culture.

On Feb. 20, 1991, Bill O'Reilly's "Inside Edition" ran a show talking about Voodoo. He painted the picture of this island nation as held hostage by Voodoo priests, capable of turning people into zombies. O'Reilly even claimed Voodoo is used to keep people in economic slavery. A Haitian intellectual once complained, "Voodoo is certainly the most publicized, the most misunderstood, and most misrepresented aspect of Caribbean cultures. Too many people equate Voodoo with superstitions and all degrees of witchcraft and sorcery."

These sentiments show an attitude of indifference and ignorance toward old age African culture. When missionaries came to Africa, one of their missions was to save the Africans from what they considered pagan ways. They branded African ancestral worship as Satanic. African religions and religions of African slaves were viewed as systems of thought inextricably linked to evil. Voodoo evokes thoughts of the living dead, secret rituals, cannibalism, wild and drunken orgies and odious doings by incomprehensible black people.

Voodoo beliefs and rites come from Africa and contain hints of Catholicism. Like any other, the religion has things it considers malicious; yet to associ-

ate the religion itself with evil is disheartening. It's dehumanizing and insensitive to think a people can evolve a culture and form of religious thought which is fundamentally evil. The Judeo-Christian world has often used such claims to gain converts and marginalize followers of eastern and African religions. The early French colonizers of Haiti often described the religion as dangerous and began the history of bad press associated with Haiti. Early anthropologists used their studies of Voodoo to reinforce racist notions of black inferiority.

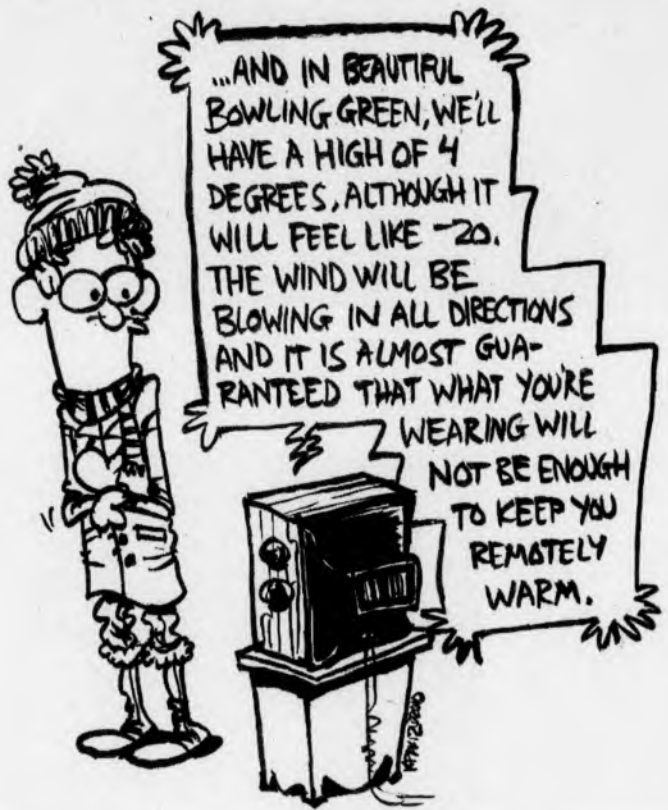
I'm not endorsing any religious idea as superior to another, but I find it disgusting that in this day and age, old manifestations of backward racist thought still reverberate. To say a culture or a people are cursed because of some strange religious edict should show people how divisive religion can be.

One major challenge has always been each religion's claim to moral superiority over others. These claims spill over and manifest themselves in statements like Robertson's.

People need to realize how they approach and view the people of Haiti says more about them than whether or not they donate anything.

Respond to Hama at
thenews@bgnews.com

THE LEGEND OF BONES MALONE



KEITH PAKIZ | THE BG NEWS

There is no such thing as light-hearted discrimination

By Charlie Felder, The Daily Collegian
College News Network

Imagine it's mid-afternoon and you're only now just several steps away from your front door. Classes ended a little while ago and, normally, you'd be bolting through that door and making a bee line to the kitchen for your long-awaited and well-deserved after school snack. Not today.

Instead, you walk quietly upstairs to the bathroom where you roll up your pant legs and study the bruises and bloody cuts on your shins and knees. You roll up your arm sleeve and wince as you gently prod the black-and-blue shape forming on your bicep. You stare at yourself in the mirror, and you begin to cry, but it's not from the stinging or the pain.

You thought they were just your classmates. You might have considered some of them your friends, but not after this. They were laughing as they kicked and punched you and chased you from the schoolyard. They called you a Jew. Though you were unaware of it when you awoke this morning — your classmates had declared it to be "Kick a Jew Day."

Oh, and one more thing: as you formulate this image from my description, imagine that you are a 12-year-old girl.

Some of you are currently rolling your eyes and saying, "Oh God, not another one of these articles." You've heard the stories and you're tired of being lectured about something that you really could care less about. You're not an anti-Semite, so why do you have to hear about it every other day? To you, this is simply another generic Jewish sob story; it's a regurgitation and amalgam of all the clichés, a mere rehash.

This, above all else, is the shame, for what I have just described to you is not a cliché. It is not a modern fable concocted out of thin air, nor out of the loose strands of several vague and interchangeable stories. What I have described to you took place only two months ago at North Naples Middle School in Naples, Fla.

This wasn't a group of drunk college idiots. This wasn't a group of uneducated high school thugs. These kids were middle schoolers, and unfortunately, that is not even the most disturbing aspect of this story by a long shot.

On Naples News' Web site, where the story was reported, there's a dainty little box where a reader poll asks you to rate the appropriate level of response which should have been taken by the school district as a means of punishment

for the students who engaged in this shocking and despicable behavior. Four options are provided, and one may select any of the following choices: suspension, expulsion, nothing, or I'm not sure.

Before I even address what the poll results were, take a moment to reflect on those choices. Expulsion. Suspension. Nothing. Which would you select?

Your selection is your business. The poll results, on the other hand, are quite public. Out of a total 3367 respondents, 39 percent voted in favor of outright expulsion and 37 percent voted for an immediate suspension of these students, with indecision resulting in 3 percent of people not being able to make up their minds up at all. And lastly, 21 percent believed that "it was just a stupid prank." You know, just a case of kids being kids.

I find such a response both perplexing and disturbing at the same time, and for good reason. I've been that kid. I've taken the unexpected punch to the upper arm in the middle of gym class with the accompaniment of the word "Jew," uttered as if it was a title of guilt and shame which I should wear miserably around my neck.

ONLINE: Read the rest of this article on-line at bgviews.com

Texting too big a part of life

By Danielle Flint, The Daily Titan
(Cal State Fullerton)
College News Network

A snapshot of the model American family on Christmas Eve: Father lounges by the fire in his favorite La-Z-Boy, pipe in his smiling mouth, speaking fondly of holidays past. Mother sits quietly in her blanketed rocking chair, nursing baby and nodding at Father. Little Brother roots through gifts underneath a flawlessly-ornamented tree. Grandma and Grandpa rest their ancient feet on the ottoman together, playing footsie and giggling like young lovers. But wait... Where is Big Sister?

Big Sister is huddled in the far corner of the living room; her fingers tickle a clicking keyboard as the little screen hidden under a Christmas blanket lights up her disgusted face.

"I h8 my family lol..."

What happened to the human connection, apathetic teens of the world?

It seems as if every teenager on the planet now has a little

pink sparkly (or silver and manly, depending on your gender or personal preference) phone glued to their grubby little fingers.

What is the point of having a mouth if you only use it to sigh when your mother does something totally embarrassing when she drops you off at the mall?

I can't even walk to class without seeing a hundred or more of you moving your thumbs in a blur across little itty-bitty keyboards — without looking where you're going, I might add. I always secretly hope you'll accidentally type a semicolon instead of a "J," and walk straight into a lamp post or a thorny bush.

That's not to say that all of you distracted clickers are teenagers. Usually, that sort of thing is limited to girls and boys of the 13 to 19 persuasion, but for the sake of argument, I'll refer to all perpetrators and enablers of this annoying behavior as "teens at heart."

Some argue that texting is convenient when a message just can't wait — but there's no way all of

you are typing something super important as you drive with your knees and sip your nonfat mocha. If it was, you would have the decency to call your party and inform them voice-to-voice. (I'm not partial to phone calls either, but it's too early in the semester to have my readership thinking I'm Amish.)

Since when did texting your "bff" Jill become more important than continuing the conversation you're having with the person two feet in front of you? I'm astounded when a friend or colleague throws up the "hold-on-just-a-second-I'm-about-to-ignore-you" finger and flips open his or her "Envy 2" just to giggle, tickle back a message, and slam that little bugger shut.

This kind of behavior has got to stop.

Just like way back when teens were under the misguided impression that smoking was cool, texting has reached the influential eyes of the younger generation. This time, instead of candy cigarettes, gummy cell phones have hit grocery stores and 7-Elevens near you.

ONLINE: Read the rest of this article on-line at bgviews.com

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THE BG NEWS

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR are generally to be fewer than 300 words. These are usually in response to a current issue on the University's campus or the Bowling Green area.

GUEST COLUMNS are generally longer pieces between 400 and 700 words. These are usually also in response to a current issue on the University's campus or the Bowling Green area. Two submissions per month maximum.

POLICIES: Letters to the Editor and Guest Columns are printed as space on the Opinion Page permits. Additional Letters to the Editor or Guest Columns may be published online. Name, year and phone number should be included for verification purposes. Personal attacks, unverified information or anonymous submissions will not be printed.

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Opinion columns do not necessarily reflect the view of **THE BG NEWS**.

University Greeks hold annual awards ceremony

By Max Filby
Reporter

The office of Greek Affairs honored students and faculty last night at the 2010 Greek Awards in the Union Ballroom.

A slide show of sorority and fraternity chapters opened the ceremony with the entrance of award nominees and their Greek leaders. Multiple students in the Greek community presented both chapter and individual awards throughout the night.

Chapters were awarded certificates for community service, philanthropy, academics and campus involvement, according to Greek Affairs graduate assistant Justin Sipes.

"The past couple of weeks have been crazy but I'm happy with how everything went tonight," said Sipes.

Both Kappa Delta sorority and Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity chapters received the Overall Chapter Excellence Award according to former presidents Michelle Robinson and Reuben Rodriguez.

"I'm very relieved that our hard work finally paid off," said Robinson.

The Bronze achievement award was given to Alpha Sigma Phi, Phi Mu, Pi Beta Phi, Omega Phi Alpha and Sigma Phi Epsilon for achieving 70 to 79 percent of core value areas.

Silver achievement was awarded to Alpha Chi Omega, Alpha Omicron Pi, Chi Omega, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc., Kappa Kappa Gamma, Sigma Kappa and Seta Phi Beta Sorority Inc.

Gold Achievement levels were awarded to Alpha Phi and Alpha Xi Delta for completing at least 90% of core value areas.

Eleven of 45 chapters also received national awards in areas such as recruitment, financial efficiency, philanthropy, athletics and overall excellence. Nationally recognized chapters include Alpha Phi Alpha, Alpha Omicron Pi Sorority, Alpha Phi Omega, Alpha Tau Omega Fraternity, Alpha Xi Delta Sorority, Delta Chi Fraternity, Delta Gamma Sorority, Kappa Delta Sorority, Pi Kappa Alpha Fraternity, Sigma Alpha Epsilon Fraternity and Sigma Kappa Sorority.

Individual awards and scholarships were also given to students during the ceremony.

The Florence Currier Award with a \$250 scholarship was awarded to Sarah Pankratz of the Alpha Phi sorority. Sarah Swegan of the Kappa Delta sorority received the Werner Book Scholarship of \$250.

The \$1,000 Timothy E. Smith Award was given to Claire Bailey of the Alpha Chi Omega Sorority and Dionte Jones of the Phi Beta Sigma fraternity.

John Waynick of the Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity was awarded the Steven R. Hanna & Kevin L. Ross Memorial Award, while Chris Greggila received the Mitch Weitzman Memorial Award.

The Order of the Omega honored Nichole Ditzel and Paul Conley with the Omega Outstanding Student Award. Several other students, advisors and faculty were also honored with awards at the ceremony.

2010 was the first year Sipes and partner Caitlin Shaw organized the Greek Awards.



AWARDS: Robert Sebo, a member of Kappa Sigma Fraternity, kicks off the 2010 Greek Awards Ceremony. The Ceremony, which began at 9 p.m., was held in the Lenhart Grand Ballroom.



FREDDIE: Freddie Falcon teases students with Greek Award nominations as they wait before entering the ceremony.

ALAINA BUZAS | THE BG NEWS

ALAINA BUZAS | THE BG NEWS

Visitors to BGSU Planetarium see stars

Tuesday night's planetarium show, 'Galileo — the Power of the Telescope,' highlights inventor's work

By Jess James
Reporter

As the lights dimmed and the star projector illuminated the night sky, the empty BGSU planetarium's showing of Galileo — the Power of the Telescope, depicted the life of the Italian inventor and his impact on the celestial universe.

With a seating capacity of 118 occupants, the BGSU planetarium was built in the spring of 1983, and has been connecting students to the sky ever since.

According to the planetarium's program guide, a planetarium is a 40-foot wide theater of the universe. It uses images to incorporate multimedia narration to

reveal the wonders of the cosmos in an educational and informative way.

Dr. Dale W. Smith, professor of physics and astronomy, director at the BGSU planetarium, said it is essential to experience the power of the galaxy.

"To see the night sky is to touch the world," Smith said. "We have lost this world to neon signs. The planetarium will help you rediscover the night sky and the universe beyond, which we are a part of."

The planetarium uses a Minolta star projector to recreate the night sky, and a star gazing production is shown before every presentation. Now the only star projector in Ohio, the University's total expense for

the entire projection system is roughly around \$400,000, Smith said.

"With everything, the building and all, the planetarium is valued at several hundred thousand dollars," Smith said. "We've been pretty slow these last couple of weekdays, but hopefully attendance starts to pick up later on in the semester. If the weather doesn't cooperate, not many people turn out."

A.J. Helfen is a physics major and a senior at BGSU. He is the counsel operator for many of the planetarium's productions, and uses his love of astronomy to motivate other students to get involved with the planetarium.

"I manage the controls partly for fun ... because I love astron-

omy," Helfen said. "I also work on the star gaze staff. All the freshmen students are required to attend a star gaze over the course of the semester. We take them up to the roof of the building and use telescopes to check out some constellations and planets."

The star gazing sessions are five nights a week, Monday through Thursday, and students do not have to be enrolled in an astronomy class to participate. New shows are added to the planetarium's program regularly throughout the semester.

Galileo — the Power of the Telescope, will play through March 5, and again on March 16 through March 26. There is no admission fee, but \$1 donations are appreciated.

CAL

From Page 3

We're hoping to get new people every week."

Another project CAL is working on is Civic Action Now. Civic Action Leaders is a scholarship program, which means everyone can't be apart of it. So CAL has created Civic Action Now to branch off the scholarship program.

"Civic Action Now is for like-minded people who want to be involved in public service and civic engagement," Valdez said.

CAL hopes in the future, once the organization can function on its own, that some of the big events will be executed by Civic Action Now, Valdez said.

Baytops said CAL's big project for the fall semester next year is a volunteer fair and

a fall service day. The volunteer fair will resemble Campus Fest, with booths set up with community service opportunities for students, staff and faculty to sign up for.

"We're trying to coordinate a one stop event for faculty and students to let them know what type of volunteer opportunities are available out there," Valdez said.

Civic Action Leaders' main goal for the campus is to provide a deeper understanding as to why community service is so important and how every student can be best used.

"Service for service's sake is great," Utsler said. "They are really good opportunities for us to learn about the people around us. Not to reach down and help but to really engage in service learning...they are teaching us just as well as we are teaching them."



FUN FACT:

BATS ALWAYS
TURN LEFT WHEN
EXITING A CAVE

BG1

From Page 3

Kelly Gordon, a representative from Speedy Burrito, said her business got involved with BG1 because it allowed better access to students.

Pat Torongo, Easy Street Café's general manager, said he got involved with the BG1

department to give students alternative eating options.

Tawny Zitek, a freshman who attended the fair, said she was glad she stopped by and thought the fair was very informative.

Freshman Pam Tobolt said the fair was helpful because she now knows exactly where she can use her card off-campus.

Tobolt also said she would

like to see other places offer this alternative in the future.

For more information about BG1 cards and where they can be used, visit www.bgsu.edu/bg1card.

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SIDELINES



FOOTBALL

Barnes may be going to Senior Bowl

BG standout receiver Freddie Barnes was contacted about playing in the Senior Bowl on Saturday in Mobile, Ala.

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OUR CALL

Today in

Sports History

1991—The New York Giants defeat the Buffalo Bills 20-19 in Super Bowl XXV.

1989—Kevin Johnson begins his NBA free-throw streak of 57 games for Phoenix.

1967—The New Orleans Saints sign their first player, kicker Paige Cothren.

The List

With both the BG men's and women's basketball teams in action tonight against the MAC West, today we look at the top five players to watch out for in each contest.

1. Prochaska: Lauren Prochaska is averaging 17.9 points per game, and has a free-throw percentage of 91 percent.

2. Brown: Dee Brown had 17 points in his last game and is averaging 10.9 points per game this season.

3. Pontius: Named the MAC Player of the Week this week, Tracy Pontius is averaging 17.2 points per game in conference play.

4. Bowdry: The BG men's team will have to play strong defense against Eastern Michigan's Brandon Bowdry, who is averaging 17.3 points per game this season.

5. Giden: Despite Western Michigan's 0-6 record in MAC play, Miami Giden is averaging 15.6 points and 5.5 rebounds per game.

BG men open MAC West play

By Paul Barney
Assistant Sports Editor

With a Mid-American Conference record of 2-3, the BG men's basketball team is in the same position they were a year ago.

During that time, the Falcons finished their conference schedule 9-2 down the stretch, propelling the team to a MAC East title.

Part of winning the MAC regular season title had to do with the team's success against opponents from the MAC West.

The Falcons went 5-1 against teams from the West last season, with their only loss coming at home to Eastern Michigan.

Today, BG will look to pick up the win they couldn't get last season,

hitting the road to square off with the Eagles for a 7 p.m. matchup.

The Falcons (9-8, 2-3 MAC) are in second place in their division, trailing Akron, Kent State, Buffalo and Miami — who are all tied for first.

Eastern Michigan (10-8, 2-3 MAC) is third in the West, trailing Central Michigan and Northern Illinois, who are tied for first, and followed by Western Michigan.

The Falcons lead the all-time series against the Eagles, holding a slight 43-38 advantage.

However, EMU has won the last three meetings, with BG not having won against the Eagles since

See **MEN** | Page 7



DRIBBLE: Dee Brown will look to continue his offensive surge at Eastern Michigan tonight.

RYAN PIROG | THE BG NEWS

EAST COLLIDES WITH WEST



SPLITTING THE DEFENSE: Lauren Prochaska splits Buffalo's defense in a game earlier this season.

RYAN PIROG | THE BG NEWS

Falcons and Broncos meet in Anderson Arena

By Sean Shapiro
Sports Editor

It's been 727 days since the BG women's basketball team lost a Mid-American Conference game in Anderson Arena.

That loss came at the hands of tonight's visitor to Anderson Arena, Western Michigan, as BG fell 79-73.

One year later, the Broncos almost pulled off the upset again, as they hung with BG all game, eventually falling 79-77 in overtime. When the teams met last season, BG had a perfect 8-0 conference record, while Western Michigan was a dismal 1-7.

This season BG is once again the MAC East leader with a perfect

6-0 conference record, while the Broncos are yet to pick up their first MAC win in six games.

Even with Western's subpar record, BG coach Curt Miller is making sure his team is prepared to play the Broncos.

"It's really easy to grab their attention. Last MAC team to beat us in Anderson, last year we had no business beating them and survived and ran out of there as the ball rolled off the rim in regulation and we beat them in overtime," Miller said.

"Clearly we could have lost two years in a row to Western, and all we've got to say is this is the last team to beat us in Anderson."

Western Michigan also poses

a difficult test for BG, as they come to Anderson Arena a week after BG played MAC west co-leader Eastern Michigan and three days before BG's rivalry game with Toledo.

While BG is coming off an impressive 83-71 win over Eastern Michigan, Western Michigan has lost seven straight, most recently a 58-44 loss to Akron this past Saturday.

The 14-point defeat to the Zips was actually below the Broncos average margin of defeat this season, so far in MAC play they've lost by an average of 16.33 points per

See **WOMEN** | Page 7



DRIVE: Tarnika Nurse drives to the hoop in a game earlier this season.

RYAN PIROG | THE BG NEWS

Barnes finally grabbing attention he deserves



SEAN SHAPIRO
SPORTS EDITOR

Freddie Barnes has caught just about everything over the past seven months.

After an NCAA record 155-catch season, Barnes may have finally used his adhesive hands to grab the attention of NFL scouts.

Yes, Barnes was a finalist for the Fred Biletnikoff award given annually to college football's best receiver, however, questions

about his speed and the fact he plays in the Mid-American Conference left question marks about his ability to move onto the next level.

These question marks loomed so large that Barnes was not invited to the NFL Draft Combine.

Barnes did partake in the East-West Shrine game last weekend, however, many so called experts consider the Shrine game the second-tier compared to this weekend's upcoming Senior Bowl.

However, what may have been considered a second-tier showcase may have put Barnes into the Senior Bowl this weekend.

"While Barnes didn't get the call on the game-winning score, he got an even bigger call Tuesday..."

In the Shrine game Barnes had 4 catches for 40 yards, but he was instrumental in the East team's game-winning drive, grabbing three straight passes, and he was the second option on the game-winning score three plays later.

While Barnes didn't get the call on the game-winning score, he got an even bigger call Tuesday.

"The senior bowl just called. Don't know what to do... Go and miss out on my speed development. Or take that risk and raise my stock," Barnes said on his Twitter (FreddieBarnes) around noon on Tuesday.

Several scouts have questioned why Barnes wasn't invited to the Senior Bowl after Central Michigan's Dan Lefevour and Ohio's Taylor Price were the only

players invited from the MAC.

By comparison Price wasn't even the best wide receiver on his team this season, while he had an impressive year catching 56 passes for 784 yards and five touchdowns, LaVon Brazill seemed to be the more dangerous player all season.

A Senior Bowl invitation would mean more than simply showing up another MAC receiver, it would also as Barnes said in his Tweet, "raise my stock."

If Barnes was to have a similar

See **BARNES** | Page 7

Houser, Boilermakers hand No. 4 Ohio State first Big Ten loss

By Cliff Brunt
The Associated Press

Purdue's freshmen offered a promising glimpse of what might lie ahead for coach Sharon Versyp's program.

K.K. Houser scored a career-high 18 points, and the Boilermakers handed No. 4 Ohio State its first conference loss, 63-61 on Monday night.

Sam Ostareello, another freshman, added 14 points and seven rebounds for the Boilermakers (10-10, 5-4 Big Ten). A third freshman, Ashley Wilson, scored eight points.

It was a breakthrough victory for a proud program that reached the NCAA regional finals last season but has struggled while trying to replace forward Lindsay Wisdom-Hylton, who now plays for the WNBA's Los Angeles Sparks.

The Boilermakers have been close. They pushed then-No. 3 Notre Dame on Jan. 4 before losing 79-75, but they refused to be disappointed again.

"It's huge," Versyp said. "Anytime you have a young team, you're going to have ups and downs, but I think it shows that we're continuing to grow and develop."

Ohio State's Samantha Prahalis missed an open layup

at the buzzer that would have forced overtime. Her chance to tie was set up when Purdue's Brittany Rayburn missed a free throw with 7.6 seconds left, the only free throw the Boilermakers missed in 15 tries.

Rayburn said once the Buckeyes rebounded her miss, the Boilermakers focused on preventing a game-winning 3-pointer or 3-point play.

"We didn't want to foul a shooter, so if they got by us, worst-case scenario for a layup is overtime," she said. "When she got past us, it was like, uh-oh, so everybody just backed up and she missed."

Jantel Lavender led Ohio State with 17 points and 10 rebounds, but she shot 6 for 18 from the field. Purdue's Alex Guyton and Chelsea Jones shared the responsibility for slowing the Big Ten's leading scorer.

"I think they were physical," Ohio State coach Jim Foster said. "I think they kept her off balance. And quite frankly, she missed some shots she usually makes."

Brittany Johnson scored 16 points and Prahalis added 11 for the Buckeyes (20-2, 8-1), whose 12-game win streak was snapped.

Johnson made three consecutive 3-pointers to tie her season

"I think it showed our team's maturity. We've had this happen to us before. Earlier in the season, we might have folded."

Brittany Rayburn | Purdue guard

scoring average in the first two minutes. The Buckeyes held the Boilermakers scoreless for the first 6:40 as Purdue missed its first 10 shots and Ohio State took a 16-0 lead.

Houser helped the Boilermakers settle down. Her three-point play cut Ohio State's lead to 26-23.

Purdue trailed 32-29 at halftime.

"I think it showed our team's maturity," Rayburn said. "We've had this happen to us before. Earlier in the season, we might have folded."

Purdue twice took one-point leads in the early minutes of the second half, but the Boilermakers went cold, and Johnson hit another three to put the Buckeyes up 44-37 with 13 minutes to play.

A three-point play by Rayburn tied the score at 48 with just under eight minutes to play, and a three-point play by Houser one minute later gave

the Boilermakers a 51-48 lead.

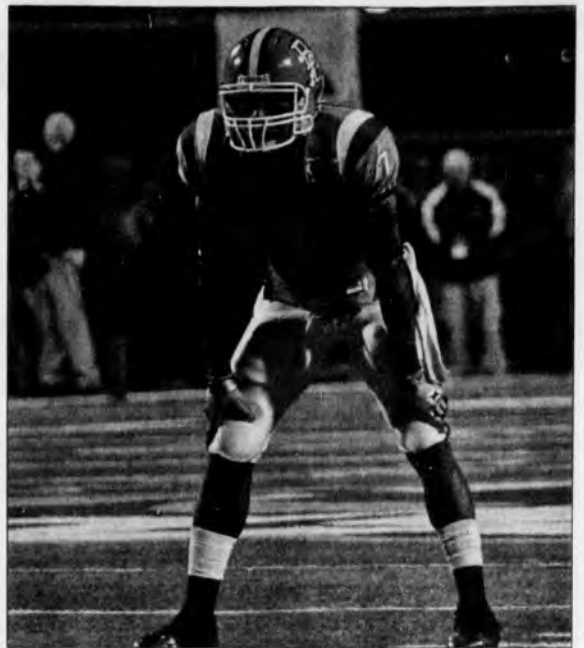
A putback by Ostareello with just over a minute left gave the Boilermakers a 61-56 lead. The teams traded unsuccessful possessions before Ohio State's Sarah Schulze was fouled with 16.4 seconds left. She made both free throws to make it 61-58.

Houser got fouled with 13.2 seconds to play, and she made both free throws to push Purdue's lead to 63-58.

Prahalis quickly answered with a 3-pointer to make it a two-point game with 7.8 seconds to go.

The Buckeyes fouled Rayburn immediately and sent her to the free throw line. She missed the first free throw, and Ohio State rebounded to set up the final sequence.

Houser hung tough in her matchup with Prahalis, a sophomore who leads the Big Ten in assists and is one of the conference's top scorers.



WAITING: Freddie Barnes waits for a punt return earlier in the season.

BARNES

From Page 6

impact that he had at the Shrine game, he would not only raise the interest of potential NFL suitors but also do so against a South team secondary that features four defensive backs from BCS conferences.

It would also give scouts a side-by-side comparison between Barnes and other top receiving prospects including Missouri's Danario Alexander

and Cincinnati's Mardy Gilyard.

"Just to clear things up. It's not a done deal for the Senior Bowl. So I'm waiting to see what happens now," Barnes Tweeted at around 4 p.m. Tuesday.

Whether or not Barnes receives an invite to the Senior Bowl, the buzz surrounding the receiver has started to grab the attention of the next level.

And why not give him the invite; there isn't a No. 7 on the North team yet.

MEN

From Page 6

a 79-72 win in Ypsilanti on Jan. 18, 2006.

The Falcons have fared well when playing at EMU's Convocation Center, winning four of the last seven meetings there.

On the contrary, the Eagles are 7-1 at home this season, averaging 68 points per game.

In order to stop EMU's offense, powered by Brandon Bowdry (17.3 points per game) and Carlos Medlock (15.1 points per game) BG will look to improve its zone defense, which coach Louis Orr said is a matter of constant moving of the feet to get out to the shooters.

On the other end, the Falcons will look to find their open shooters, which starts in the middle.

Apart from clogging up the

"Most of our offense has been coming from our perimeter guys."

Louis Orr | Coach†

painted area and grabbing rebounds, BG's offense feeds off its big men in the middle.

"Our big guys have to be playmakers," Orr said. "They have to make plays for the guards, draw attention and set good screens. Most of our offense has been coming from our perimeter guys."

Sophomore Dee Brown is one of them, scoring at least 13 points in three of the last four games.

He is shooting 50 percent (10-for-20) from behind the arc in conference games this season.



ENOCH WU | THE BG NEWS

CONCENTRATION: Scott Thomas will look to create some offense against the Eagles.

WOMEN

From Page 6

lot at the power forward," Miller said. "So now your power forward has to guard a player with tremendous perimeter skills."

While Miller is worried about Western Michigan's forwards, Bronco coach Tasha McDowell will have to figure out how to control BG's duo of Lauren Prochaska and Tracy Pontius.

Prochaska, the reigning MAC player of the year, has been averaging 17.8 points per game this season despite facing double-teams in multiple games. Pontius has also been effective as of late, averaging 17.2 points per game in conference games.

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Haiti by the numbers

A look at the aftermath of the magnitude 7.0 earthquake that hit Haiti on Jan. 12

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Estimated Dead	200,000	People who need food aid	2 million
Rescued from collapsed buildings	134	People receiving food aid	400,000
Injured	194,000	Aftershocks	5 of magnitude 4.5 or greater
Homeless	1 million	Backlog of planes waiting to land at airport	800-1,000
Living in makeshift camps	700,000-800,000	Flights landing per day	About 140
Tents needed for homeless	200,000 family	U.S. military	About 20,000 troops, 18 ships
People who have fled Port-au-Prince for the countryside	236,000	U.N. peace-keeping troops and police	12,500
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4 charged in phone scheme at La. senator's office

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — Federal authorities say people posing as phone technicians tried to interfere with the phone system in U.S. Sen. Mary Landrieu's New Orleans office.

An FBI affidavit says four people were arrested Monday. At least two of them were dressed in work clothes and construction hats and claimed they were technicians for a telephone company.

It's not clear from the affidavit why they might have been trying to interfere with the system.

A message seeking comment has been left with Landrieu, a moderate Democrat. She's been in the news recently because she negotiated an increase in Medicaid funds for her state before announcing her support for Senate health care legislation.

Guilty plea in shooting at NYC's Waldorf-Astoria

NEW YORK — With his still-wounded victim looking on, a man admitted yesterday to shooting a security guard accidentally during a brazen attempt to rob a jewelry store in the Waldorf-Astoria hotel.

Rafael Rabinovich-Arda pleaded guilty to burglary and acknowledged the November 2008 shooting. His gun went off as he struggled with security guard Gregory J. Boyle.

Rabinovich-Arda, 21, briefly answered a judge's questions and said he had none of his own. He has been promised a 15-year prison term at his sentencing, set for Feb. 16. He had originally faced assault and other charges.

Rabinovich-Arda's defense team has said another man manipulated him into trying to hold up the store in November 2008. The unidentified associate fed Rabinovich-Arda cocaine and preyed on his depression and loneliness after a childhood of being uprooted from Brazil to Israel to the United States, a social worker involved in his defense said during a Jan. 15 court hearing.

-Jennifer Peltz (AP)

FBI investigating Pittsburgh arts student beating

PITTSBURGH — The FBI is looking into allegations that Pittsburgh police officers brutally beat an 18-year-old viola player.

FBI spokesman Jeff Killeen says the probe is in an early stage that will determine whether there's a potential violation of federal civil rights criminal laws and the need for a more thorough investigation.

Killeen says the assessment has begun even though the bureau has not yet received a letter from Jordan Miles' attorney formally requesting a criminal investigation.

Miles alleges undercover police beat him Jan. 12. Pictures taken by his mother show his face covered with bruises and his eye swollen shut. Terez Miles says the three white officers targeted her son because he is black.

The officers have been reassigned while the city investigates.

-Rami Plushnick-Masti (AP)

NYC mayor denies White House ambitions for 2012

NEW YORK — New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg said yesterday he has "no plans" to run for president and insisted that hiring Hillary Rodham Clinton's former media strategist is not a step toward a future White House bid.

But the billionaire Republican-turned-independent appeared to enjoy the speculation when asked about the political implications of Howard Wolfson joining his administration as an adviser.

Wolfson's broad political experience will likely renew national interest in Bloomberg, just as it did in the lead-up to the 2008 race, when it thrust him into the spotlight instead of letting him fade away as a second-term mayor.

Bloomberg smiled and told a reporter, "I can't believe you're even asking" about presidential plans, then went on to say he's thrilled to have someone like Wolfson leave a lucrative consulting business to join city government.

"There's no other political reason for him, whatsoever," Bloomberg said.

-Sara Bugler (AP)

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1	7	2	5	8	9	6	4	3
9	6	3	2	1	5	8	7	4
7	8	1	6	9	4	5	2	3
3	2	5	1	8	7	9	6	4
4	9	6	5	2	3	1	7	8



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Witness in trial says gays face job bias

By Lisa Leff
The Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — A political scientist testified yesterday in a trial challenging California's ban on same-sex marriage that gays and lesbians face significant discrimination in the workplace.

Claremont McKenna College Professor Kenneth Miller said under cross-examination that he did not know how frequently gay Americans are fired or harassed at work but assumed it happens often.

Miller was called as a defense witness in the trial, the first in a federal court to examine whether decisions by states denying gays the right to wed violate their constitutional rights.

"... I haven't done any other investigation whether those factors were critical."

Kenneth Miller | Professor

On Monday, Miller testified that the gay rights movement enjoys substantial political power in California that helps shield them from bias.

Lawyers for two same-sex couples suing to overturn the voter-approved ban known as Proposition 8 are trying to prove that deep-seated prejudice motivated the measure.

Plaintiffs' attorney David Boies asked Miller, "You do agree there

are some gays and lesbians who are fired from their jobs, refused jobs and paid less because of their sexual orientation?"

"I have no reason to disagree with that. I expect that's the case," Miller replied.

Boies also introduced some of Miller's writings that criticized California's initiative process, saying it had historically been used to target unpopular minorities. The lawyer asserted churches opposed to same-sex marriage and voters' religious views played a big role in the passage of Proposition 8.

"You are saying the general principle that a religious majority should not be able to use law to impose their views on others is a generally accepted principle in political science?" Boies asked,

citing Miller's work.

Miller replied, "There might be exceptions, but that is a generally accepted principle."

His voice occasionally rising, Boies also prodded Miller to explain why voters in a state known for being gay-friendly overwhelmingly supported Barack Obama yet denied gays the right to wed.

"I believe religiosity is a critical factor, among other things," Miller said. "I didn't list any other that were critical, but I haven't done any other investigation whether those factors were critical."

Miller acknowledged that about half of the research materials he used in preparing his testimony was supplied by defense attorneys.

\$75K bail set for Va. man facing NJ weapon charges

By Geoff Mulvihill
The Associated Press

SOMERVILLE, N.J. — A New Jersey judge set bail yesterday at \$75,000 for a Virginia man facing charges after authorities seized rifles, a grenade launcher, a night vision scope and a map of a U.S. military facility from a motel room where he was staying.

Lloyd Woodson, 43, of Reston, Va., appeared briefly before Superior Court Judge John Pursel in Somerville yesterday afternoon, shackled and dressed in a jail jumpsuit.

He did not speak during the two-minute proceeding except to acknowledge the judge. No defense lawyer was present, and

Woodson was not asked to enter a plea.

He would need to post a bond of only \$7,500 to get out of jail as he awaits trial. People seen as major threats usually have a higher bail amount set; prosecutors have not said how close they believe Woodson came to using his weapons.

FBI agent Bryan Travers said it appears he did not have terrorist connections, and he has not been charged with any federal crimes.

Woodson was arrested in Branchburg early Monday by police responding to a complaint about a suspicious person.

Somerset County Prosecutor Wayne Forrest said Woodson was wearing a bulletproof vest

and carrying a semiautomatic Bushmaster rifle concealed under his green, military-style jacket when officers encountered him at a Quick Chek store in Branchburg shortly before 4 a.m. Monday.

According to a court document, a police officer asked him if he was OK. He responded: "I'm getting some food for my kids," then fled.

Officers chased him out of the convenience store and found him hiding in bushes. They tackled him when he tried to run again. The officers used pepper spray to subdue him.

Forrest said the rifle Woodson was carrying had a defaced serial number and had been altered to fire .50-caliber ammunition.

Detectives later searched the room where Woodson had been staying at the Red Mill Inn in Branchburg. Forrest said they seized another Bushmaster .308-caliber semiautomatic rifle with a defaced serial number, a 37 mm Cobray grenade launcher, a second bulletproof vest, a Russian-made night vision scope, a police scanner, the maps, and hundreds of rounds of .50-caliber and .308-caliber ammunition.

Woodson was being held at the Somerset County jail. Prosecutor's spokesman Jack Bennett said his office did not know whether Woodson had a lawyer. Tom Rosenthal, a spokesman for the state public defender's office, said it had not been assigned his case.

Yale lab tech pleads not guilty in student killing

Raymond Clark III additionally charged with felony murder which may earn him an extra 25 to 60 years

By John Christoffersen
The Associated Press

NEW HAVEN, Conn. — An animal research technician charged with killing a Yale University graduate student pleaded not guilty yesterday to murder and a new charge of felony murder.

Raymond Clark III is accused of strangling 24-year-old Annie Le, of Placerville, Calif., in September, five days before her planned wedding. He appeared in New Haven Superior Court yesterday in an orange jumpsuit with his hands and legs shackled to enter the pleas and to waive his right to a probable cause hearing at which he could have challenged whether prosecutors had enough evidence to try him.

Clark, 24, has been jailed in lieu of \$3 million bail on the murder charge. Prosecutors yesterday revealed that they were adding the felony murder count.

Felony murder is alleged when someone dies during the commission of a felony, such as robbery, burglary, kidnapping and

sexual assault, or an attempted felony. Under Connecticut's felony murder law, prosecutors don't have to prove that a killing was intentional.

Details of the new charge, including what the alleged felony was, weren't released. Prosecutors said in court they would give details later.

Clark's attorney declined to comment. A prosecutor declined to comment, citing an ongoing investigation.

Murder and felony murder each carry a sentence of 25 to 60 years in prison.

Le's body was found stuffed behind a research lab wall in September on the day she was supposed to get married on Long Island. An autopsy concluded she was strangled, but the motive remains unclear.

Two days before Clark was arrested, investigators found blood "in plain view" on the kitchen floor near the entrance to his apartment, according to search warrants. The warrants do not indicate the source of the blood.

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4 charged in phone scheme at La. senator's office

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — Federal authorities say people posing as phone technicians tried to interfere with the phone system in U.S. Sen. Mary Landrieu's New Orleans office.

An FBI affidavit says four people were arrested Monday. At least two of them were dressed in work clothes and construction hats and claimed they were technicians for a telephone company.

It's not clear from the affidavit why they might have been trying to interfere with the system.

A message seeking comment has been left with Landrieu, a moderate Democrat. She's been in the news recently because she negotiated an increase in Medicaid funds for her state before announcing her support for Senate health care legislation.

Guilty plea in shooting at NYC's Waldorf-Astoria

NEW YORK — With his still-wounded victim looking on, a man admitted yesterday to shooting a security guard accidentally during a brazen attempt to rob a jewelry store in the Waldorf-Astoria hotel.

Rafael Rabinovich-Arda pleaded guilty to burglary and acknowledged the November 2008 shooting. His gun went off as he struggled with security guard Gregory J. Boyle. Rabinovich-Arda, 21, briefly answered a judge's questions and said he had none of his own. He has been promised a 15-year prison term at his sentencing, set for Feb. 16. He had originally faced assault and other charges.

Rabinovich-Arda's defense team has said another man manipulated him into trying to hold up the store in November 2008. The unidentified associate fed Rabinovich-Arda cocaine and preyed on his depression and loneliness after a childhood of being uprooted from Brazil to Israel to the United States; a social worker involved in his defense said during a Jan. 15 court hearing.

-Jennifer Peltz (AP)

FBI investigating Pittsburgh arts student beating

PITTSBURGH — The FBI is looking into allegations that Pittsburgh police officers brutally beat an 18-year-old viola player.

FBI spokesman Jeff Killeen says the probe is in an early stage that will determine whether there's "a potential violation of federal civil rights criminal laws" and the need for a more thorough investigation.

Killeen says the assessment has begun even though the bureau has not yet received a letter from Jordan Miles' attorney formally requesting a criminal investigation.

Miles alleges undercover police beat him Jan. 12. Pictures taken by his mother show his face covered with bruises and his eye swollen shut. Terez Miles says the three white officers targeted her son because he is black.

The officers have been reassigned while the city investigates.

-Rami Plushnick-Masti (AP)

NYC mayor denies White House ambitions for 2012

NEW YORK — New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg said yesterday he has "no plans" to run for president and insisted that hiring Hillary Rodham Clinton's former media strategist is not a step toward a future White House bid.

But the billionaire Republican-turned-independent appeared to enjoy the speculation when asked about the political implications of Howard Wolfson joining his administration as an adviser.

Wolfson's broad political experience will likely renew national interest in Bloomberg, just as it did in the lead-up to the 2008 race, when it thrust him into the spotlight instead of letting him fade away as a second-term mayor.

Bloomberg smiled and told a reporter, "I can't believe you're even asking" about presidential plans, then went on to say he's thrilled to have someone like Wolfson leave a lucrative consulting business to join city government.

"There's no other political reason for him, whatsoever," Bloomberg said.

-Sara Bugler (AP)

THE BG NEWS SUDOKU								
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Witness in trial says gays face job bias

By Lisa Leff

The Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — A political scientist testified yesterday in a trial challenging California's ban on same-sex marriage that gays and lesbians face significant discrimination in the workplace.

Claremont McKenna College Professor Kenneth Miller said under cross-examination that he did not know how frequently gay Americans are fired or harassed at work but assumed it happens often.

Miller was called as a defense witness in the trial, the first in a federal court to examine whether decisions by states denying gays the right to wed violate their constitutional rights.

"... I haven't done any other investigation whether those factors were critical."

Kenneth Miller | Professor

On Monday, Miller testified that the gay rights movement enjoys substantial political power in California that helps shield them from bias.

Lawyers for two same-sex couples suing to overturn the voter-approved ban known as Proposition 8 are trying to prove that deep-seated prejudice motivated the measure.

Plaintiffs' attorney David Boies asked Miller, "You do agree there

are some gays and lesbians who are fired from their jobs, refused jobs and paid less because of their sexual orientation?"

"I have no reason to disagree with that. I expect that's the case," Miller replied.

Boies also introduced some of Miller's writings that criticized California's initiative process, saying it had historically been used to target unpopular minorities. The lawyer asserted churches opposed to same-sex marriage and voters' religious views played a big role in the passage of Proposition 8.

"You are saying the general principle that a religious majority should not be able to use law to impose their views on others is a generally accepted principle in political science?" Boies asked,

citing Miller's work.

Miller replied, "There might be exceptions, but that is a generally accepted principle."

His voice occasionally rising, Boies also prodded Miller to explain why voters in a state known for being gay-friendly overwhelmingly supported Barack Obama yet denied gays the right to wed.

"I believe religiosity is a critical factor, among other things," Miller said. "I didn't list any other that were critical, but I haven't done any other investigation whether those factors were critical."

Miller acknowledged that about half of the research materials he used in preparing his testimony was supplied by defense attorneys.

Yale lab tech pleads not guilty in student killing

Raymond Clark III additionally charged with felony murder which may earn him an extra 25 to 60 years

By John Christoffersen

The Associated Press

NEW HAVEN, Conn. — An animal research technician charged with killing a Yale University graduate student pleaded not guilty yesterday to murder and a new charge of felony murder.

Raymond Clark III is accused of strangling 24-year-old Annie Le, of Placerville, Calif., in September, five days before her planned wedding. He appeared in New Haven Superior Court yesterday in an orange jumpsuit with his hands and legs shackled to enter the pleas and to waive his right to a probable cause hearing at which he could have challenged whether prosecutors had enough evidence to try him.

Clark, 24, has been jailed in lieu of \$3 million bail on the murder charge. Prosecutors yesterday revealed that they were adding the felony murder count.

Felony murder is alleged when someone dies during the commission of a felony, such as robbery, burglary, kidnapping and

sexual assault, or an attempted felony. Under Connecticut's felony murder law, prosecutors don't have to prove that a killing was intentional.

Details of the new charge, including what the alleged felony was, weren't released. Prosecutors said in court they would give details later.

Clark's attorney declined to comment. A prosecutor declined to comment, citing an ongoing investigation.

Murder and felony murder each carry a sentence of 25 to 60 years in prison.

Le's body was found stuffed behind a research lab wall in September on the day she was supposed to get married on Long Island. An autopsy concluded she was strangled, but the motive remains unclear.

Two days before Clark was arrested, investigators found blood "in plain view" on the kitchen floor near the entrance to his apartment, according to search warrants. The warrants do not indicate the source of the blood.

\$75K bail set for Va. man facing NJ weapon charges

By Geoff Mulvihill

The Associated Press

SOMERVILLE, N.J. — A New Jersey judge set bail yesterday at \$75,000 for a Virginia man facing charges after authorities seized rifles, a grenade launcher, a night vision scope and a map of a U.S. military facility from a motel room where he was staying.

Lloyd Woodson, 43, of Reston, Va., appeared briefly before Superior Court Judge John Pursel in Somerville yesterday afternoon, shackled and dressed in a jail jumpsuit.

He did not speak during the two-minute proceeding except to acknowledge the judge. No defense lawyer was present, and

Woodson was not asked to enter a plea.

He would need to post a bond of only \$7,500 to get out of jail as he awaits trial. People seen as major threats usually have a higher bail amount set; prosecutors have not said how close they believe Woodson came to using his weapons.

FBI agent Bryan Travers said it appears he did not have terrorist connections, and he has not been charged with any federal crimes.

Woodson was arrested in Branchburg early Monday by police responding to a complaint about a suspicious person.

Somerset County Prosecutor Wayne Forrest said Woodson was wearing a bulletproof vest

and carrying a semiautomatic Bushmaster rifle concealed under his green, military-style jacket when officers encountered him at a Quick Chek store in Branchburg shortly before 4 a.m. Monday.

According to a court document, a police officer asked him if he was OK. He responded: "I'm getting some food for my kids," then fled.

Officers chased him out of the convenience store and found him hiding in bushes. They tackled him when he tried to run again. The officers used pepper spray to subdue him.

Forrest said the rifle Woodson was carrying had a defaced serial number and had been altered to fire .50-caliber ammunition.

Detectives later searched the room where Woodson had been staying at the Red Mill Inn in Branchburg. Forrest said they seized another Bushmaster .308-caliber semiautomatic rifle with a defaced serial number, a 37 mm Cobray grenade launcher, a second bulletproof vest, a Russian-made night vision scope, a police scanner, the maps, and hundreds of rounds of .50-caliber and .308-caliber ammunition.

Woodson was being held at the Somerset County jail. Prosecutor's spokesman Jack Bennett said his office did not know whether Woodson had a lawyer. Tom Rosenthal, a spokesman for the state public defender's office, said it had not been assigned his case.

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SOURCESOhio governor
says P&G to work
with schools

CINCINNATI — Ohio is turning to the world's largest consumer products company for help in boosting its economy.

Gov. Ted Strickland said in his State of the State address that details are being worked out for a standing agreement between Cincinnati-based Procter & Gamble Co. and Ohio's university system.

Strickland said in Columbus yesterday that the deal will speed up and bolster research teamwork between the company and universities. He says that will give the schools unprecedented opportunities for developing new products and getting them to market.

The governor says P&G gets the benefit of tapping into innovative thinkers in the system that includes 13 four-year schools.

P&G has been increasingly interested in working with universities as part of an open innovation push in the past decade.

-Dan Swell (AP)

Cleveland to raze
buildings near
site of blast

CLEVELAND (AP) — A city official says Cleveland will move quickly to demolish residences that have been made unsafe by an explosion that leveled a vacant house.

City Councilman Matt Zone says the home next door and a small brick apartment building must come down because of severe structural damage from Monday's blast.

Fire department spokesman Larry Gray says four people who were near the house that blew up were taken to hospitals with injuries not considered life-threatening.

Neighbors say the house had been vacant for two years. In recent days, neighbors had complained about a natural gas smell coming from the house.

Gray says authorities suspect, but have not confirmed, a gas leak.

Racial threat in
residence hall stirs
college in Ohio

NELSONVILLE, Ohio (AP) — Two black students have withdrawn from an Ohio technical college and several others plan to miss class after a message scrawled in a dormitory bathroom made a racial threat.

The message found Friday in a men's residence hall at Hocking College said black students would be killed on Feb. 2.

College spokeswoman Judy Sinnott says the threat has led two black students to withdraw from the two-year school in southeast Ohio. She says up to 10 others have chosen to stay home until after Feb. 2, and another dozen have asked to move out of the dorm where the threat was found.

About 400 of the college's 6,300 students are black. It has increased security patrols and is installing more surveillance cameras.

The FBI is investigating the threat as a hate crime. A \$5,000 reward is being offered.

Gov's State of State aims high

By Julie Carr Smyth
The Associated Press

COLUMBUS, Ohio — The state's dire economic situation was the focus of the State of the State address yesterday, as Gov. Ted Strickland proposed modest initiatives and a number of new committees aimed at pulling Ohio out of the recession.

New spending programs are typically a hallmark of a governor's annual address to lawmakers. The best Strickland could do was a \$40 million investment in green energy technologies funded largely with federal dollars.

Strickland, a Democrat with falling approval ratings who is running for re-election, did his best to strike an upbeat tone considering numerous setbacks in the state. Unemployment is 10.9 percent, the highest in 25 years.

"Yes, we have been knocked down," Strickland said. "There's no doubt about that."

But the governor promised things would improve, thanks to the state's history of invention and innovation.

"I believe in Ohio because we will invest in the things we do exceptionally well," Strickland said. "And we will create jobs."

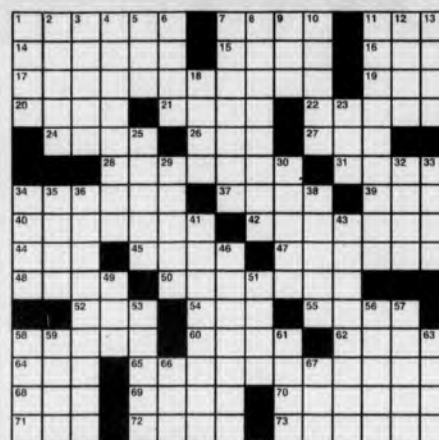
The \$40 million Energy Gateway Fund, including \$30 million in federal stimulus money, would go to investments in fuel cell, wind power, solar energy and energy storage industries.

Companies seeking the funds would have to match the state investment with private dollars.

"There will come a day when Ohio will be the undisputed home of advanced energy," Strickland said. "A day when we cast off those two tired words that have been used to put us down: 'Rust Belt.' Because that's not who we are."

The Daily Crossword Fix
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Center



ACROSS

- 1 Distinguishing feature
- 7 "Is this ___ time ... to talk of Pensions and Grenadiers?"; Sterne
- 11 Wailing instrument
- 14 Hit the big time
- 15 Quote, as a source
- 16 Dress bottom
- 17 1986 Monkees hit
- 19 Bard's "prior to"
- 20 Bright star
- 21 Basic French verb
- 22 "Beware the Jabberwock, ___!"
- 24 Warehouse stamp letters
- 26 "Washboard" muscles
- 27 Briny expanse
- 28 "M*A*S*H" nickname
- 31 Put on the hi-fi
- 34 Wildly eccentric, briefly
- 37 Sniffing and sneezing cause
- 39 ___ carte
- 40 Roll call response
- 42 How some suits are made

- 44 Toys ___
- 45 Wild outbreak
- 47 Victimized, with "on"
- 48 Wine bottle datum
- 50 Original iPod, as it's now known
- 52 Narrow inlet
- 54 Chick ___: light women's fiction
- 55 Nordic runners
- 58 Knight's job
- 60 Ice sheet
- 62 Burned, in a way
- 64 City area, briefly
- 65 1968 Impressions hit
- 68 Get older
- 69 Yemen city on its own gulf
- 70 Early ascetic
- 71 State that's only nine mi. wide at its narrowest point
- 72 Had second thoughts about
- 73 Put away for later

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